THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (d) A detailed project report for setting up of 1500 MW combined cycle power project at Ennore, Tamil Nadu submitted by M/s HMG (Power) Ennore Ltd. was received in Central Electricity Authority (CEA) in June 1997, using LNG as long term fuel. This scheme was returned by CEA on 28-10-1997 as the various inputs/ Clearances essentially required for processing of the proposal for techno-economic clearance of CEA were not tied up. M/s Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation have proposed to set up a power plant based on LNG, at Ennore and have invited competitive offers for developing this project.

Mega power projects in collaboration with foreign countries

SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether major American and European Power giants have expressed their willingness to set up Mega Power Projects in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to permit them to set up mega power projects in India; and

(d) to what extent the shortage of power is likely to be solved?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (c) A number of companies including some from Europe and United States have evinced interest in setting up mega power projects in the country. Government has recently recast the policy on development of mega power projects. According to the revised policy, certain project sites, both in the Public as well as Private sector have been identified for setting up such mega projects which would cater to the power needs of more than one state. The Standing Independent Group constituted by the Government would initially be the apex body to oversee the implementation of the mega private power projects. The principles of competitive bidding would be adhered to as far as possible, while obtaining tariff offers. The bidding process for award of the identified mega projects to private sector companies has not so far commenced.

(d) It is visualised that through the revised mega power policy, a capacity of 15,000 to 20,000 MW would be added.

टी०एच०डी०सी० द्वारा जलगुणवत्ता निगरानी केन्द्र की स्थापना

1804. **श्री मनोहर कान्त ध्यानी:** क्या विद्युत मंत्री 3 जून 1998 को राज्य सभा में अतारांकित प्रश्न 836 के दिए गए उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या टी०एच०डी०सी० द्वारा जलगुणवत्ता निगरानी केन्द्र की स्थापना की गई है;

(ख) क्या इस प्रयोग के लिये मनेरी जलाशय को चुना गया है क्योंकि यहां पर्वतीय भू-भाग में गंगा पर एक जलाशय है जहां टिहरी जलाशय के निर्माण से पहले यह प्रयोग संभव है, यदि हां, तो क्या कार्य प्रारम्भ हो गया है, यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इस महत्वपूर्ण विवादास्पद मुद्दे की ऐसी उपेक्षा के क्या कारण है?

विद्युत मंत्री (श्री पी०आर० कुमारामंगलम): (क) से (ग) डीएचडीसी ने केन्द्रीय जल आयोग के परामर्श के साथ उपयुक्त स्थलों पर जल गुणवत्ता के अनुवीक्षण हेतु कार्यवाही शुरू कर दी है। जल गुणवत्ता